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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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IR CROSS REFERENCE FORM

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Station number of document: IN 243 CASERTA A-47528

Date of document: 3 Jan 1945

Title of document: Romania—Prime Minister's Statements to the
Press on General Situation.

Document to be filed in: IR/Archives Cables

Cross reference to be filed in: Serial

Excerpt of pertinent information:

1. On 30 December, Radescu, the Romanian Prime Minister, handed statements to the foreign and local press representatives regarding the present situation in Rumania, and also delivered a radio broadcast on the same subject. All three declarations contained statements critical of the Russians activities in Rumania, and were generally to the effect that Rumania is rendered incapable of fulfilling the armistice conditions as a result of her being denied the means of production and transportation. Specifically he implied that the removal of equipment by the Russians is making it impossible to produce the goods demanded by the Russians, and stated that Rumanian transport is completely inadequate. . .

3. The two left-wing parties announced the same day that they regarded Radescu's statements as unwarranted attacks against the Russians and accordingly they were withdrawing from the government. However, the same evening they returned, stating that they had reconsidered their decision to withdraw and had determined to remain in the government.

4. Also, on the night of 30 December, Vinogradov, the acting head of the Russian Armistice Control Commission, requested an immediate audience with Radescu. Radescu was not located that night and the conference took place the next afternoon. Vinogradov asked why Radescu had seen fit to criticize and attack the Russians in his statements. Radescu replied that he had done nothing more than state the truth and deemed it his absolute duty to make clear the facts so that the record would show why Rumania will be able to discharge her armistice obligations. Radescu stated that if the Russians continue to take away the means of production and deny the means of transportation to Rumania, there is no reason for the existence of any Rumanian government, and he himself would resign. Vinogradov then said he believed the situation not to be so serious and that he would do all in his power to help solve the difficulties and assist Radescu in every way possible. Even though Vinogradov knew that Radescu's statements had been broadcast on the radio, he requested Radescu not to permit their publication in the local press. Radescu consented and the Rumanian statements have not appeared in print. Vinogradov said he hoped Radescu would continue to regard him as a friend. Radescu said he was friendly

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to Vinogradov but should be permitted to do his work. They shook hands and went to the Christmas party of General Dombrowsky, Mayor of Bucharest.

5. Radescu said to source that he had made his statements for the purpose of getting a clear-cut Russian reaction. He said that if the result had been to force his own resignation as prime minister, he would have told the truth and put the facts on record, whereas if he continues in office he would have consolidated his position and placed himself in a better position to get constructive results in dealing with the Russians.

6. Bucharest comments on the developments are regarded as extremely significant, containing indications that the Russians wish to support the Radescu government. Observers here expressed the opinion that Vinogradov's request for the suppression of Radescu's statements was to avert a government crisis which might result in the fall of the present Radescu government.

Note: With the Exception of the reported conversation between Radescu and Vinogradov the above has been corroborated by numerous independent sources.

This is all the pertinent information on subject in this document.

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